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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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PCT/EP2003/006101



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B02/0024PC	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/006101	International filing date (day/month/year) 11 June 2003 (11.06.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 11 June 2002 (11.06.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B01J 19/00		
Applicant BASF AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.  <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).  These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:  I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 15 December 2003 (15.12.2003)	Date of completion of this report 17 September 2004 (17.09.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP2003/006101

## I. Basis of the report

## 1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:  
pages \_\_\_\_\_ 1-3 \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the claims:  
pages \_\_\_\_\_ 1-5 \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the drawings:  
pages \_\_\_\_\_ 1/2-2/2 \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.  
These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language \_\_\_\_\_ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

## 3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\*

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\* Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP 03/06101

## I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

This report has been established on the assumption that the claimed priority is valid. Otherwise, the document EP-A-1 256 378, which is cited in the search report and was published before the relevant date, and which relates to the same subject matter as the application, would be particularly relevant.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.  
PCT/EP 03/06101

## V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

### 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-5	YES
	Claims		NO

### 2. Citations and explanations

1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: WO-A-99/13988.

2. D1 discloses a device for carrying out parallel reactions. The device comprises a plurality of reactors, supply and discharge lines for reagents and a condensation unit. The condensation unit covers the reactors and forms a reflux cooler. Stirring of the reactors is also disclosed in D1 (abstract, page 3, lines 7 to 22, page 4, line 20 to page 5, line 3, figures 4 and 5).

3. The subject matter of claim 1 differs from D1 in that every reactor is fitted with an individual cover.

Consequently, the subject matter of claims 1-5 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

4. Solving the problem addressed by the present invention (versatile automatic synthesis equipment with reflux cooling) by providing every reactor with a cover as per claim 1 can be considered inventive, because a person skilled in the art would not arrive at the solution to the problem from the available prior art.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP 03/06101

Consequently, the subject matter of claims 1-5 is inventive (PCT Article 33(3)).

5. Contrary to PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the description does not cite document D1 or indicate the relevant prior art disclosed therein.